

WOMEN'S GRANTS FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

**1351. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the Minister for Women's Interests:**

I refer to the recent invitation for applications to the Women's Grants for a Stronger Future 2023 program and the requirement for applicants to be incorporated or represented by an incorporated entity.

- (1) Can the minister advise why applicants need to be incorporated to apply for this grant?
- (2) What risks are mitigated by requiring applicants to be incorporated?
- (3) Is it common practice to require community organisations to be incorporated if they are to be considered for public funding?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

- (1)–(3) To enter into a grant agreement, the Department of Communities is required to contract with a legal entity in accordance with the grant guidelines. While applicants are not required to be incorporated to apply for a grant, when an applicant is an unincorporated association, Communities requires an incorporated organisation to auspice the applicant. This requirement serves to reduce potential risks to both Communities and the applicant. The auspice will assume administrative responsibility and accept and adhere to all terms and conditions of the grant, maintain financial records and provide reporting information for successful applications. It is important that grant recipients have established financial reporting and governance structures and the capacity to administer grant funds.